



## EARLSTON HIGH SCHOOL PRIMARY/SECONDARY TRANSITION POLICY

Aim: to outline the liaison between Earlston High School and its associated primary schools.

The school serves a largely rural catchment area taking pupils from the following primary schools:

Earlston	Lauder	Melrose	Channelkirk
Newtown	St Boswells	Gordon	Westruther

A large number of pupils also choose to attend our school from outwith the catchment area. This is done by applying to Scottish Borders Council for a placing request.

Rationale: The move from primary to secondary school is an important event for our pupils. We at Earlston High School wish to make this move as untroubled and smooth as we can. We have an excellent relationship with our partner primaries and we work together to maintain this strong partnership.

### Procedure

- In February Guidance teachers visit P7 teachers to gather information about each pupil. Learning Support and Behaviour Support teachers also visit to discuss individuals who will require additional support. We have a clear picture of pupils' strengths, any difficulties, aptitudes, special talents and so on.
- In May Guidance teachers visit P7 pupils to introduce them to High School and to issue the prospectus. Pupils are actively encouraged to ask questions.
- In June the P7 pupils spend 2 days visiting the school, in their new register classes and following their S1 timetable.
- In June 2009 we started our Travel Transition Project. This is a joint project involving primary and secondary teachers. The pupils were introduced to it on their 2-day visit, continued the work back at primary school and finished the project after approximately the first 4 weeks of high school. The continuity of learning has been beneficial to the pupils at a time when so many other things are changing.

### Parents

Special Information Evenings for parents of Primary 7 pupils are run in June and parents are warmly invited to attend. The first evening is a general introduction to the school. The second is a chance to meet your child's Pastoral teacher. We fully encourage parents to become partners with Earlston High School in the education of our young people. We also encourage parents to join our active and successful Parent Council.

### Teachers

As well as working closely with our colleagues in the primary, all teachers in S1 have access to attainment levels in Maths and English. We envisage this continuing as we all take responsibility for Literacy and Numeracy.